

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An optical arrangement comprising:

two parallel plates each ~~with~~ having a through-hole defining an optical input/output ~~having~~ defining an optical axis; ~~and~~

an at least partly optical component between the plates, the at least partly optical component and a first plate of the two parallel plates comprising first fastening studs ~~placed~~ positioned transversely opposite on the first plate and on the at least partly optical component and connected by first bumps comprising a meltable material that when molten is are configured to selectively wet the first fastening studs to optically align the at least partly optical component and the optical input/output of the first plate, ~~and~~

wherein the two parallel plates further comprise second fastening studs ~~placed~~ positioned transversely opposite on the two parallel plates and connected by second bumps comprising a meltable material, and

wherein the second fastening studs are distinct from the first fastening studs and are configured to limit lateral movement of the second bumps, such that when molten is ~~configured to~~ the second bumps selectively wet the second fastening studs to optically align the optical input/output ~~on~~ in each of the two parallel plates.

2. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least partially optical component comprises first and second optical components and wherein the second component residing between the first component and second plate, the second component and one of the plates having third fastening studs placed transversely opposite the plate and connected by third bumps a meltable material that when molten is able to selectively wet the third fastening studs in order to optically align the second component and the input/output on the plate to which it is fixed by the third bumps.

3. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the second component is fixed to the second plate by the third bumps.
4. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein each meltable material is selected from a group comprising indium, tin-lead, indium-lead, silver-tin, antimony-tin and tin-silver-copper alloys.
5. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first and second bumps comprise the same meltable material.
6. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first and second fastening studs comprise a material selected from a group comprising copper, nickel, silver and gold.
7. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein all of the fastening studs comprise the same material.
8. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to any claim 1, wherein the first plate and the component each have an electrical interconnection network, wherein the first fastening studs comprise metal and are connected to a respective one of the networks, and wherein the meltable material ~~being~~ comprises an electric conductor.
9. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one partly optical component comprises an optical filter.
10. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises a variable optical attenuator.
11. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises an electro-optic modulator.

12. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises a wavelength-selective photodetector.

13. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises an optically pumpable laser cavity.

14. (Withdrawn) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the at least one at least partly optical component comprises a micro-lens.

15. (Currently amended) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the ~~first~~ optical component is mounted at a distance of between 10 and 100 microns away from the first plate.

16. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein each plate comprises silicon.

17. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, further comprising a fibre engaged in at least one of the through-holes defining the optical input/output.

18. (Previously presented) The optical arrangement according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the through-holes defining the optical input/output is filled with a material that is transparent to light signals.

19. (Withdrawn) A production method for an arrangement comprising first and second plates and at least one at least partly optical component, the method comprising:

- (a) forming a hole designed to form an optical input/output in each of the first and second plates,
- (b) forming first fastening studs on the first plate and the component that are adapted to be selectively wetted by a meltable material whilst the area

around the studs is much less wettable by the material, the first fastening studs being placed so that they can come into opposite relationship transversely of the first and second plates,

(c) forming second fastening studs on the first and second plates that are adapted to be selectively wetted by a meltable material whilst the area around the studs is much less wettable by the material, the second fastening studs being placed so that they can come into opposite relationship transversely of the first and second plates,

(d) placing disks made of the meltable material that can selectively wet the first fastening studs between the first fastening studs that are temporarily melted in order to passively align the component and the hole in the first plate,

(e) placing disks made of the meltable material that can selectively wet the second fastening studs between the second fastening studs that are temporarily melted in order to passively align the holes in the plates.

20. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 19, further comprising forming third fastening studs on one of the first and second plates and a second component that are adapted to be selectively wetted by a meltable material whilst the area around the third fastening studs is much less wettable by the material, the third studs being placed so that they can come into opposite relationship transversely of the plate and, before the first and second plates are aligned with each other, placing disks made of the meltable material that can selectively wet the third fastening studs between the first and second plates that are temporarily melted in order to passively align the second component and the hole in the plate.

21. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 20, wherein the third fastening studs are formed on the at least one optical component and the second plate.

22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 19, wherein the disks comprise the same material.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20, wherein the first, second, and third fastening studs comprise the same material.